CLAIMS

1-11.   Cancelled

1   12. (Previously Presented) A gatekeeper for use in a communication system,
2   said gatekeeper comprising
3   a processor; and
4   a memory coupled to said processor, said memory storing instructions adapted
5   to be executed by said processor for performing the steps of:
6   (a) receiving at said gatekeeper from an associated communicating
7   terminal a request for information;
8   (b) if the requested information is known by said gatekeeper, providing
9   the requested information to said associated communicating terminal;
10   (c) receiving at said gatekeeper from a second gatekeeper a request for
11   information that is not known by said gatekeeper;
12   (d) sending the request that was received from the second gatekeeper to
13   a third gatekeeper
14   (e) receiving from the third gatekeeper the information requested by the
15   second gatekeeper; and
16   (f) sending to the second gatekeeper the information received from the
17   third gatekeeper.

13. Cancelled

14. Cancelled.

1   15. (Original) The invention of claim 12 wherein the requested information is
2   an address.

1   16. (Original) The invention of claim 15 wherein said address is an application
2   address, a network address or a resource address.

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1   17. (Original) The invention of claim 12 wherein the requested information is
2   information about a resource.

1   18. (Original) The invention of claim 17 wherein said resource is one of: ·
2   bandwidth, a port, a buffer, a link, a trunk, processing unit capacity, and a quality-of-
3   service parameter.

1   19. (Previously Presented) The invention of claim 12 wherein said gatekeeper
2   is adapted to use signaling messages conforming to International Telecommunications
3   Union standard H.323 to receive and transmit information between itself and said
4   second and third gatekeepers and to communicate with said gatekeeper's associated
5   communicating terminal.

        20-27.   Cancelled

1   28. (Previously Presented) The invention of claim 12 wherein said gatekeeper
2   is adapted to cache the information received from the third gatekeeper so that if said
3   gatekeeper is again requested for said information, it will be able to provide said
4   information to the source of the request.

        29-38.   Cancelled.

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